

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 15-19 are pending in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and in other applications.

Claims 1 and 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Office Action states that there is insufficient antecedent basis for “the code entry” and “the instruction” in claim 1, line 9. Claim 1 has been amended. The concerns raised in the Office Action have been addressed by the Amendment to claim 1. Claims 11-13 depend from claim 1. The rejection should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 15-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tock (U.S. Patent no. 5,815,718) in view of Patel (U.S. Patent no. 6,338,160). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites the method step of “extracting reference data comprising a first and second reference data, said reference data is used for specifying a location to be accessed in a memory, and resolving a reference using said reference data, said first reference data comprising an index to a resolved class related reference data and said second reference data comprising an index to a resolved field related reference data.” The claim 1 method further comprises “storing result data of said resolved reference linking to said program in a code entry representing an instruction to be executed when the program is executed.” According to claim 1, “said two steps of extracting and storing being executed before said program is executed” and said code entry further comprises “at least one link to another code entry associated with the instruction.” Applicants respectfully submit that the cited combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Tock by contrast, referring to Figure 5, states that the:

invoke method instruction contains a pointer to the method's pointer 511. The offline class loader attempts to resolve this symbolic reference by adding to the method's name a pointer to the method's block. Once the linker has determined the memory layout for the classes, the linker replaces the non-quick format of the invoke method instruction by the quick format which directly references the method.

Column 8, lines 8-11.

In addition, Tock states that the "constant pool contains for each method a method pointer 511 that contains a pointer to the method's name 514 and the method's class name 516. . . . The method pointer 511 is used to symbolically reference a method. This is used in the non-quick format of an invoke method instruction." Column 7, lines 63-64 (emphasis added). This implies that although the symbolic reference through pointer 511 is resolved by Tock, there remains an additional link that must be made from the invoke instruction to the constant pool entry (pointer 511), to the method's name and finally to the bytecode (i.e., the final destination). As such, Tock cannot disclose, teach or suggest the act of "storing result data of said resolved reference linking to said program in a code entry representing an instruction to be executed when the program is executed." Moreover, Tock fails to disclose, teach or suggest that said code entry, which contains resolved reference data, also comprises "at least one link to another code entry associated with the instruction."

Patel, which has been cited as teaching an index to a resolved field related reference data, does not cure the deficiencies of Tock. Accordingly, the cited combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest at least the above-referenced limitations of claim 1.

Claim 2 recites "a storing means to store result data of a resolved reference linking to said program in a code data entry representing an instruction to be executed when the program is executed, wherein reference data used to obtain the result data comprises a first and second reference data." According to claim 2, "said first reference data is determined based on a class data index and said second reference data comprises an index value for one or more field data" and said code entry further comprises "at least one link to another code entry associated with the instruction." Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is allowable over the cited combination for at least the reasons set forth above and on its own merits.

Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 2 are to be allowable over the prior art of record. The depending claims, i.e., claims (3-5, 11-13, and 15-19) are also believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims and on their own merits.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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